MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*): Have not the claims of Mr. Padmanabha Pillai been brought to the notice of the Council and of the Government on a former occasion also?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot recollect that exactly.

Results of the V. S. L. C. Examination, 1107.

350. **MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the percentage of passes in the Vernacular School Leaving Certificate Examination for 1107;

(*b*) why there are many failures;

(*c*) whether the Inspecting Officer or the Director has suggested any remedial measures for this state of affairs; and

(*d*) if they have, what they are?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) 27·6.

(*b*) The percentage of failures this year is more or less the same as in recent years.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) This question does not arise in view of the answer to part (*c*) above.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): May I know What the opinion of Government is in regard to the percentage of passes?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It would have been much better if a better percentage had been secured.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Have the Government tried to secure a better percentage?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The teachers and the students, and everybody concerned, are trying to get a better percentage.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): The answer to part (*b*) is "The percentage of failures this year is more or less the same as in recent years." Yet the Government have not thought it necessary to enquire into the matter.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Goverment have thought it necessary to enquire into the matter.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Will they be pleased to conduct an enquiry into the reasons for the large number of failures?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government will ask the Director to look into the matter.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): I wish to know whether that is an answer to my question? I wanted to know the reason why there are many failures. The answer given is that there are many failures because there are many failures. Is that an answer?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The reason is that the candidates who appeared did not do well. So, they failed.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Was it due to the inefficiency of the teachers or to the high standard of the examiners?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Cheif Secretary to Government*): There is nothing special in 1107 to attract the attention of Government. The usual average has been maintained in 1107 also.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Does the member say that because the usual high percentage of failures has occured, there is no need to enquire into it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is the reason why it did not attract the attention of Government.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PIILLAI (*Parur*): But what are the reasons for this high percentage of failures, whether it is the average or usual per centage or not? That is what I want to know.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There might have been many reasons. The candidates might not have done well; or the teachers might not have taught well.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Is it not the duty of the department to see that the teachers teach well?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. I did not say that the fault lay with the teachers. I only said that that was possible.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Have Government enquired into it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): They have not enquired into it.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Will they be pleased to enquire into it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have already stated that the Director will be asked to enquire into it.

Votnig of Demands for Grants.

DEMAND VII—EDUCATION DEPARTMENT—(*contd.*)

PRESIDENT: The discussion on Demand VII will now be resumed. The time remaining for it is approximately three and a quarter hours. Motions Nos. 279 and 280 are not relevant. These two motions propose token cuts and are by way of censure on the department. Yesterday, on Mr. K. P. Madhavan Pillai's motion, I allowed certain latitude of debate which, strictly speaking, I should not have done. Mr. K. P. Madhavan Pillai's motion was a substantial cut and therefore the discussion should have been simply on the travelling allowance of the Director for 1108. But as the discussion had begun, I thought the discussion might be allowed to continue. But I do not want that to be treated as a precedent. I do not think the next two motions should be allowed to be moved, as under the previous motion, there has been a kind of vote of censure on the Depatment.

Motions 279 and 280.

The following motions were not moved:

MR. K. PADMANABHA PANIKKAR:

279. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for travelling allowances by Re. 1.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN:

280. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for travelling allowances by Re. 1.

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